



# The Southwester

*Serving the Southwest and Capitol Riverfront Communities*

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## How Will DC United Stadium Impact Southwest?

By Ed Lazere

**W**ould a new soccer stadium be good for DC? Would it be good for Southwest?

The answers are not clear-cut, but they could be "yes" in both cases, if the right steps are taken. Right now, the proposed deal is not very good for the city as a whole; it puts too much cost and risk on the public treasury instead of on the team owner. The bare-bones proposal also makes no reference to community consultation or benefits. That could change as the deal progresses, but only if SW residents speak up and get involved.

DC United is important to the Washington DC region and a new stadium would be a welcome addition, but the excitement over a new stadium should not stop us from asking the hard questions about the deal, particularly whether it is good for the stadium's immediate neighbors, or for the city as a whole.

That means we need to talk about money. The team, which is losing money at RFK stadium, has, in effect, gotten a half-price



offer to get a new stadium. The district has offered \$150 million to buy and prepare land. The team owner, by contrast, would get

the spoils, keeping all revenue from tickets, concessions, ads, and naming rights, in addition to enjoying a big jump in the team's market value. United has not gotten this sweet of an offer from any other jurisdiction, and neither have most soccer teams, where the typical public stadium financing is about \$80 million.

Also, while the team owner gets a safety net, the risks to the city are great. The costs of buying land that has unknown environmental hazards, relocating a PEPCO substation, and providing new infrastructure could easily surpass \$150 million. The proposed deal also calls for DC taxpayers to take steps to ensure the team makes a "reasonable profit," by reducing the team's property tax bill and turning over sales taxes collected on stadium activities.

Every dollar spent on a soccer stadium is a dollar that could be spent building a new school, housing for homeless families, or stocking schools and libraries with technology. Just months ago, Mayor Gray made an announcement of \$100 million for housing. Now he is talking about providing even

See "Stadium" page 2

## SW Schools Excel in CAS Testing

### Amidon-Bowen Soars!

By Lucy Rojansky

**A**fter four years of falling or stagnant DC Comprehensive Assessment System (CAS) scores, the hard work of Amidon-Bowen teachers and students is beginning to show results.

The exam, given each spring, tests the proficiency of the city's students in 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, as well as 10<sup>th</sup> grade, in reading and math. The results provide part of the basis for evaluating teachers and principals on their effectiveness. Students are categorized as below basic, basic, proficient, or advanced, depending upon their scores. Students who score proficient are considered to be performing at grade-level.

In 2012, 16.8 percent of Amidon-Bowen students tested proficient or higher in math, and 21.8 percent tested proficient or higher in reading. In 2013, those numbers had risen to 20.6 percent and 30.9 respectively.

While the improvement in math scores tracked with the average improvement across DC public schools of 3.9 points, students' reading scores increased 9.1 points, far exceeding the DC average of 4 points, and reflecting a 45 percent increase over last year's results.

"In math, we grew, in reading, we leaped," said Amidon-Bowen Principal, Iza-

bela Miller. "We are hoping to see a leap in math in the coming year."

Indeed, under Principal Miller's guidance, the school has focused its efforts on improving reading skills and as the numbers attest, the strategy is paying off.

For the 2013-2014 school year, Amidon-Bowen's focus will be on close reading and evidence-based writing. These skills will be taught and applied across subjects, including math and science.

Meanwhile, Amidon-Bowen teachers and administrators met over the summer to review the CAS results at a more granular level in order to better understand the strengths and weaknesses of each individual student. This information, Principal Miller hopes, will give teachers the context they need to understand the specific ways in which they can help boost the performance of their students who are nearing proficiency.

With an extremely strong team of teachers in place for the 2013-2014 school year, Principal Miller believe her school is well positioned to continue its trajectory of improving student performance.

"I am very proud of the work we have done," Miller said, "and I am looking forward to building on our success in the year ahead."

### Jefferson Scores Big!

By Bruce DarConte, Education Chair, CBCC

**T**here are many reasons why Jefferson Academy is reaching new heights.

We all know that DC initiated major school reforms in 2007 and had persistently low test scores. We all know there is much work to be done.

Each Spring, the DC Comprehensive Assessment System (CAS) tests are administered to students in grades 3 through 8 and grade 10. The tests offer a snapshot of student learning that officials use to rate schools, principals, and teachers.

The recent release of test scores for Jefferson students has shown that the snapshot is truly coming into focus. Jefferson's math scores improved 12.2% points to 63.4% from 51.2% — a 24% increase over last year. Jefferson's reading scores improved 11.3% points to 45.3% from 34.0% - a 29% increase over last year. There were 30-point gains in math and 18-point gains in reading with the 7th graders! In total, 77% were proficient in math and 60% were proficient in reading.

"It's not all about the test, but it's a good way to show that we're making a lot of progress and pushing them to achieve," said seventh-grade math teacher Greg Dohmann, who wrote the lyrics for the "Rock that CAS" Video. That's creative thinking!

According to results released by the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE), the 2013 scores show statewide increases of 3.9 percentage points in math and 4.1 percentage points in reading – the largest gains since 2008.

Let's talk about the winning formula at Jefferson. Principal Natalie Gordon is a dedicated, enthusiastic bundle of energy who can be seen greeting students as they arrive in the morning with her usual smile. I was at an assembly in the school's auditorium and witnessed how well she interacts with students and teachers while simultaneously letting the room know that she is in charge.

Principal Gordon was at two DC charter schools, Friendship Tech Prep and DC Prep's middle school, prior to going to Jefferson, which was struggling with low test scores. In 2011, she was in charge of the sixth grade academy, and beginning in 2012 she took charge of the seventh and eighth grades.

In addition, with a staff of dedicated teachers, it should be no surprise that Jefferson has raised the bar.

Combine this with the new International Baccalaureate curriculum and an extensive building renovation that is scheduled soon, and Jefferson is poised to be one of the best middle schools around.

This is especially important for our local kids in Amidon-Bowen and the soon-to-be Jefferson," page 3

# DC Launches Community Plan for SW

By Melissa Bird

On September 11th, 2013, the DC Office of Planning (OP) publicly launched a community planning process involving local stakeholders and District government agencies to create a Small Area Plan (SAP) for the Southwest DC neighborhood. This plan, called the Southwest Neighborhood Plan, will create a community-led vision and urban design, land use, and neighborhood conservation framework to guide future development in the Southwest neighborhood over the next 5 to 10 years. The Southwest Neighborhood Plan study area extends from South Capitol Street to Maine Avenue SW and from P Street SW to the south, north to the I-395 Freeway. The OP team began the pre-planning effort for this project in the Spring of 2013 which included discussions with other District agencies, Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners (ANC) and community stakeholders to develop a comprehensive work scope to best address community concerns.

There are a number of reasons why now is the right time to be embarking on a plan for the Southwest neighborhood. Area residents are already familiar with the tremendous amount of change that has taken place in recent years in Southwest, as well as plans for further development in and around the neighborhood. While this change is exciting and likely to bring many new and much-needed amenities to the Southwest community, it can also cause concerns about the impacts to long-time residents within the adjacent areas. Additionally, the community has voiced the desire to enhance existing parks and open spaces. There is an abundance of District and federally-owned parcels in the neighborhood, many of which are currently underutilized and/or underdeveloped. The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has completed a

transportation study for M Street, which calls for a future streetcar line in the community. Given all these factors, there is a great opportunity to continue the area's progress toward a vibrant, walkable, mixed-use neighborhood rich with amenities, while addressing neighborhood concerns and ensuring development reflects a community-led vision for the future.

A SAP is a specific type of plan that is meant to provide more fine grain, neighborhood-level goals and recommendations to complement the District's Comprehensive Plan, which offers broader-based, long-term policy recommendations (<http://www.planning.dc.gov>). SAP recommendations provide a shorter outlook of 5 to 10 years versus the 20-year horizon for the citywide Comprehensive Plan. SAPs present the community-led vision of how a neighborhood should grow, and are useful for guiding future development and land use decisions, revitalizing commercial areas, providing design guidelines for both buildings and open space, and improving access for all residents to amenities and transportation choices. SAPs are not driven by any single property concern or community group, and are truly meant to be comprehensive and reflective of the community as a whole.

The planning process will be highly interactive with several public meetings, online forums, and other participation activities held over an approximately 6-8 month period, culminating in a Mayoral Public Hearing. A draft plan will be circulated for community review and comment. The plan will then be submitted to the DC Council for its consideration.

The OP team, as part of the pre-planning process, has presented at ANC 6D, the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, the Community Benefits Coordination Council and the Greenleaf Residents Council. The team has received invaluable feedback from these organizations and individuals; this

information has helped shape the planning approach and process. In addition, OP has met with other District Government agencies, such as Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), District Department of Transportation (DDOT), Department of General Services (DGS), the Commission on the Arts and Humanities (CAH), the Department of Housing and Community Development (DCHD), and the DC Housing Authority (DCHA) to better understand their initiatives in and around the Southwest neighborhood. Agency and community coordination will be ongoing throughout the planning process. The OP team is also working with an Advisory Committee comprised of ANC Commissioners and representatives from community organizations who will assist with outreach efforts to maximize transparency and participation in the planning process.

"One of the great strengths of the Southwest neighborhood is the community's knowledge of its history and the shared desire to celebrate the great parts of that history while learning from the past and the Urban Renewal missteps," said Tregoning. "We see this level of personal investment in long-time residents as well as newer residents. We're really excited to see how it translates into the planning process over the next year or so."

The first public kick-off meeting was held on September 11th at Arena Stage. If you were unable to make this meeting, please be sure to check out the project website at [www.swneighborhoodplan.org](http://www.swneighborhoodplan.org). Please join us in an online dialogue about the community vision at [www.engagesouthwest.org](http://www.engagesouthwest.org). The plan's website will contain regular plan updates and post meeting notes, maps, photos and other planning information, as well as upcoming meetings and other ways to get involved. You may also contact Melissa Bird, Project Manager and Ward 6 Neighborhood Planner, directly at 202-478-1323 or [melissa.bird@dc.gov](mailto:melissa.bird@dc.gov).

## (e)merge Art Fair to Take Place October 3-6

The third edition of the (e)merge art fair will take place October 3-6, 2013, in Washington DC, featuring 80 exhibitors showing works by over 150 artists from 30 countries.

Presenting a select mix of international galleries along with vetted solo presentations by independent artists, (e)merge is the only art fair in the world that gives free exhibition space to artists without gallery representation and promises to inspire a new echelon of art collectors by providing curatorial access to the latest movements in emerging art.

Over 5,500 visitors attended (e)merge in 2012, at what Washington City Paper called "the biggest event on the calendar" for emerging artists in Washington or maybe "anywhere on the East Coast."

This year's fair has a series of events in partnership with The Corcoran Gallery of Art, the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, The National Gallery of Art, the National Museum of Women in the Arts, the National Portrait Gallery, and The Phillips Collection.

### WHEN:

#### Opening Preview:

Thursday, October 3rd: 7pm - 9pm  
Concert by the Pool at 9pm (tickets available soon)

Friday, October 4th: 12pm - 7pm  
Saturday, October 5th: 12pm - 7pm  
Sunday, October 6th: 12pm - 5pm

### WHERE:

Capitol Skyline Hotel at 10 "I" St SW  
More Information: [www.emergeartfair.com](http://www.emergeartfair.com)

## STADIUM

From p. 1

more for soccer. Why should a soccer stadium suddenly be the city's top budget priority?

Beyond the costs and risk, the proposed "land swap" should also raise eyebrows. Trading the Reeves Center and other public properties may help the city acquire the stadium land quickly, but it isn't the best way for DC to get the most out of its assets. If the District is ready to sell some of its properties, an important issue that merits public discussion, those properties should be sold to the highest bidder.

Finally, a new stadium could prove to be a win for the surrounding neighborhood, but none of those details have been worked out and many questions remain. Buzzard Point is home to marinas, the Earth Conservation Corps, parks, and more. What would happen to those? What will the District do to ensure that the added traffic volume is not disruptive? Will the stadium's job opportunities go to area residents, particularly those in nearby public housing, and will they pay living wages? Finally, many soccer stadiums are part of larger recreational facilities. Will DC's stadium come with public fields, youth soccer opportunities, or other public amenities?

A new soccer stadium at Buzzard Point could be a great thing, or it could a bust. The deal is far from final, and there will be opportunities to assess and change it. The proposal has to be spelled out in more detail and go before the Council for review. That means there will be many chances for residents of SW and the whole city to make sure we get a soccer stadium that is a benefit for everyone.

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By Kael Anderson

Whether for a velodrome, a bus storage lot, a soccer stadium or something else, we've witnessed a surge in development interest for Buzzard Point, but that belies this little understood and appreciated area. In this two-part series, we'll explore the area's history and current activities.

Our research indicates the name Buzzard Point dates back to Captain John Smith, the first European to explore the area in the early 1600s, who named what is now the Anacostia River "Turkey Buzzard Branch." Turkey Buzzard Point appears on maps as early as 1635. Later activities suggest reasons why the name might have stuck:

*For some time past, Health Officer Hammett has been engaged in making an investigation of this place [the rendering operations of Patrick Mann], and this morning Dr. Hammett submitted [his] report to the Commissioners: We would call your attention first to . . . [unenclosed wagons used to convey the carcasses to the company's wharf]. Second. The place of deposit and the manner of handling the remains prior to the shipment to the factory also demands attention and the adoption of other and more sanitary methods. The place for collection is the wharf at the foot of South Capitol Street, of which we have made several inspections, to wit: July 17, 1893, we found two dead horses on scow at wharf exposed to hot sun, one much swollen and odorous; also an accumulation of bones partially covered by putrid flesh and giving off an offensive stench. July 23 we discovered five dead horses on a scow basking in hot sun, swollen and odorous. July 24 five dead horses on boat, greatly swollen and decomposing... (Evening Star - August 5, 1893)*

Nomenclature aside, the area took on added importance in the turn of the 18th century when it became part of the nation's capital. Government planners George Washington and Pierre L'Enfant envisioned the point becoming a major

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## Buzzard Point, Part I



military fort and entryway to the city, but with the fort's establishment at the point it displaced many commercial activities. Most of the commercial activities eventually coalesced at the 6th St wharf, several blocks upstream.

Meanwhile, aside from some secondary activities associated with the fort, Buzzard Point remained largely undeveloped. It was a fate partly dictated by its geography: marshy Potomac River bottoms bisected by the wide, swampy James Creek.

For the remainder of the century, geology continued to play a role. In an effort to improve the city's economy, James Creek was converted into a canal. Yet, the canal quickly proved to be financially unsustainable, fell into disuse, and became an open-pit sewer. At its best, the canal served as an isolating barrier, at its worst it was a debilitating health and economic disaster to the local area.

In 1831, a penitentiary was completed north

of the existing fort, further severing residential and commercial uses from the bustling 6th St wharf. One unknown observer was recorded to have said in 1850 that the area "seemed like an overgrown, tattered village which some late hurricane had scattered along the river's edge."

After the Civil War, Buzzard Point became more developed as freed slaves joined existing ethnic communities to form a relatively stable and ethnically-diverse population. The neighborhood contained a mix of ownership and housing types, particularly townhouse and alley dwellings. It benefited from being situated between leading military outposts and commercial ports. Roosevelt Hall, arguably the most notable extant building in Buzzard Point, was erected at the tip of Fort McNair at the turn of the century.

In 1920, the Evening Star reported that many of the city's families could point to an ancestor who lived in the Buzzard Point area. "What is

now South Washington was then all Washington, with the exception of a narrow fringe of settlement north of the [Pennsylvania] Avenue."

Still, residential wealth and commercial vitality remained at arm's length. By the 20th Century, the nation-wide decline in inland waterborne trade depressed the local area's already tenuous economy.

Beginning in the 1900s, a series of mostly government-initiated projects had the ultimate effect of wiping out much of the residential community. The Washington Sanitary Housing Company, a private philanthropic corporation, undertook a series of redevelopment efforts to replace dated dwellings with "sanitary housing." Although these periodic efforts between 1904 and 1931 replaced the older housing stock with better stock, it was racially-segregated, which worsened the widespread white-flight that urbanized areas like Southwest was facing.

In an effort to provide an economic boost, Congress changed the area's zoning to an industrial classification in 1932. Railroad tracks from the Southeast Federal Center were extended into the area and PEPCO built a power station, but few other significant activities developed.

Efforts to replace the depressed housing with modernized units resumed in 1934 under the federal Alley Dwelling Authority and its successor, the National Capital Housing Authority. By 1958, these authorities cleared thousands of dwellings and built the James Creek Apartments and the Syphax Gardens Public Housing complex at the northern extent of the area. The vacant James Dent House is as the only remaining stand-alone dwelling in Buzzard Point.

This diminished presence belies the cultural significance of the Dent House and other current activities in Buzzard Point. We'll explore these facets next month.

## OPED: March on Washington - 50 Years Later

By Taylor Lee

I am so proud of my dad, Clifford Taylor Lee, Sr. Even at the age of 81, he was determined to be in attendance at the 2013 March on Washington. On August 28th, 1963, my dad attended the historic first March on Washington. Dad said that "nothing could have stopped me from attending in 1963 or 50 years later where I was one of several thousands who marched from the steps of Georgetown Law School to the steps of the Lincoln Memorial." Relying on the aid of a cane and a walker, dad's tenacity to complete the entirety of the 1.6 mile march inspired others to ignore the rain and to push on to complete the commemorative march.

In 1963, my dad was a student at Howard University School of Law. In those days, Howard was a hotbed of social and legal activism. He tells me that his call to action was greatly impacted by his many peers who were students from the deep south and who were intimately familiar with the

civil rights movement. Many had been in the trenches and on the front lines of the movement of the civil rights battle in their home states. With them they brought to Howard specialized training, passion, and a wealth of civil rights knowledge. Upon graduation, he said, most students intended to return home better armed with new skills, advanced education, and more determined to continue the fight.

So, on Wednesday, August 28th, dad went to the March with a heavy heart knowing that many of the foot soldiers with whom he had been active in the 1960's civil rights movement were no longer around and had never been given the proper respect due them. In addition to marching to keep the dream alive and passing the torch to a new generation of activists, dad was also motivated to honor those soldiers no longer with us but upon whose shoulders we all stood to get where we are today.

While at the March, Dad was interviewed by several news outlets and was featured on CBS

Evening News. I was so proud of him when he said, "Dr. King's dream has not been fully realized. We still have lots of work to do." As the younger generation has been passed the torch, we must first hold the ground that others have worked so hard to achieve through the sacrifice of blood, sweat, and tears. We must address ongoing issues of employment, high incarceration, renewed voter suppression, providing a living wage, immigration, and equal rights for LGBT. All of us, regardless of our background, sexual orientation, and our ethnicity deserve a shot at the American dream.

I have hope for the future. With people like my dad, Clifford T. Lee Sr., and my young son, Clifford III, as inspiration, I know that we shall, indeed, overcome. But, as dad says, "the struggle continues..."

■ Taylor Lee lives in White Sulphur Springs, WV. Clifford Sr. is retired from the federal government and lives in SWDC.

## JEFFERSON

From p. 1

reopen Van Ness Elementary (my other pet project) over in Capitol Riverfront.

Enrollment is also up. This year, student enrollment will be 310, compared to 286 last year, and work is currently underway to renovate

the 3rd floor, which was not in use.

The school's mission statement reads, "At Jefferson Middle School, we have a strong sense of P.R.I.D.E: Prepared, Respectful, Inspiring, Determined and Engaged. Our faculty and staff exemplify these characteristics and instill them in our students through our strong academic programming. We emphasize science and technology and in addition to our core curriculum,

we offer a variety of enrichment programs and extracurricular activities. At Jefferson, we challenge our students academically and teach them the life skills they will need to succeed not only in high school, but in whatever post-secondary option they pursue."

So, a dedicated Principal plus dedicated teachers equals higher performing students; that is truly a winning formula.

By Sam Marrero

**S**hane Pomajambo, Executive Director of Art Whino gallery, has made a name for himself developing an internationally recognized network of over 1200 artists. Located in National Harbor, MD, Art Whino has won Best Art Gallery from the Washington City Paper five years running.

For some time, Shane has sought the right opportunity to establish a major artistic presence in Washington, DC. Shane has finally found that foothold right here in Southwest with *Blind Whino: SW Arts Club*, a joint non-profit venture between him and Ian Callendar, Creative Executive Owner of Suite Nation. Callendar is a DC-based and nationally recognized events and branding specialist who will lead innovative programming of Blind Whino. Callendar has built a successful career connecting high-quality international brands with organic cultural movements to create groundbreaking events with an educational and eye-opening flair.

Callendar and the Suite Nation team will embrace a wide-range of educational art pro-

## Blind Whino Opens G40 Arts Summit

gramming at *Blind Whino: SW Arts Club* to the benefit of the entire Southwest community, young and old. According to Pomajambo and Callendar, *SW Arts Club* will exist as a "a functioning organic art space for all to share and learn through various art exhibits and events, live performances, and artist workshops."

Charles Allen, Chief of Staff to Ward 6 Councilman Tommy Wells, commented: "Adding the *SW Arts Club* is another addition to the community that is building arts, culture, and learning into the neighborhood for both young and young-at-heart. The potential for an engaging arts district can be a catalyst for neighborhood-based development as we've seen in other parts of the ward and city."

To see the Blind Whino building for the first time is not short of an awe-inspiring experience. The almost surreal exterior of Blind Whino hints at the type of art it will offer: murals, street art, skateboard art, stencil, wheat paste and 3D installations. Navy Yard Neighborhood Com-

missioner, David Garber commented: "I'm really excited about this space. Having a tenant like Blind Whino and the *SW Arts Club* is a huge win for Southwest because it adds a shock of color and new life to a forgotten property and turned it from a community blight to a community beacon."

The *Blind Whino: SW Arts Club* is timing its grand opening to coincide with the G40 Art Summit and the Heineken Mural Project. The theme of this year's G40 Art Summit is "Art of Transformation," and runs from September 13th to October 6th, with open hours Thursday and Friday evenings and weekend days. Special weekend events are planned as well, to include for the Congressional Black Caucus and hip-hop festival Rock the Bells. Heineken USA will be announcing secret pop-up parties throughout the art summit on Twitter using #heinekemurals.

As part of its educational mission Dreaming Out Loud, a local non-profit and operator of the Aya Community Market, operates a micro-farm

for neighborhood youth on the grounds surrounding Blind Whino. Chris Bradshaw Executive Director of Dreaming Out Loud said, "I think that Blind Whino has great potential to be a part of a new, inclusive Southwest future: one that brings folks of different economic backgrounds together, bridges division, and brings much needed economic opportunity for low-income community members. I think there's a lot of synergy in using these two mediums to make use of forgotten spaces."

Julia Christian, co-owner of the new Anacostia Playhouse, said, "I'm excited to see such a broad array of arts-based development coming to fruition in SW. I have seen first hand the positive, catalytic role that the arts can play in responsible, community driven economic development."

The capital already has incredible art museums scattered city-wide, but Blind Whino and the nearby Mera Rubell-led Randall School modern art center redevelopment have the potential to turn this threadbare stretch of Southwest into a concentrated arts community attracting the nation's best up-and-coming artists.

## Amidon-Bowen Stands Poised to Build on its Success

By Lucy Rojansky

**A**s students return to Amidon-Bowen for the 2013-2014 school year, they and their parents can expect to see and experience a variety of changes that point to the school's growing success and improving record of academic achievement.

The school's population has grown by over 100 students in the past two years, and has already exceeded its projected enrollment of 303. Though the final count will not become official until October, over 327 students are currently enrolled. As further testament to Amidon-Bowen's growing popularity, the early childhood program now boasts a waiting list of 17 students with out-of-boundary families seeking to enroll their children.

As for the staff, Amidon-Bowen now enjoys a roster of teachers who are all rated effective or highly effective. Over the summer, three experienced new teachers joined the staff, each of whom has a proven track record of successfully helping students improve.

"We have an extremely strong team in place," said Principal Izabela Miller.

Faculty and staff convened over the summer to make detailed plans for the school year, all geared at maximizing student learning. The

changes including cutting down on the scheduled transition time between classes, which has now been reduced from five minutes to two.

Amidon-Bowen provides its students with a variety of amenities and instructors that are rare among DC public elementary schools, including a laptop for every student, a full-time art teacher, gym coach, librarian, and two full-time reading tutors, and it is one of the few DC elementary schools that has its own gym.

In addition to these services, PTA President Martin Welles emphasizes the high-level partnerships that are in place to benefit Amidon-Bowen students, including NASA's Mars Rover project for fourth graders, a transportation club run in conjunction with the Department of Transportation, and other nascent projects with the Department of Defense and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

In an exciting recent development, the DC United Soccer Club selected Amidon-Bowen as the only public elementary school in the city that will receive a 12 week after-school clinic for boys and girls grades K-5 on the school's soccer field. Practice will take place Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 3:30 to 6:00 p.m. All participants will receive full uniforms.

The host of positive developments does not

change the fact that many challenges remain for a school working towards a successful reconstitution. In addition to continuing the drive to improve test scores, Principal Miller said that the school's main challenge for the year ahead will be to increase attendance, cutting back on truancy and tardy arrivals. The staff got a jump on the problem over the summer, conducting home visits with families whose children had attendance issues last year. The work will continue throughout the year in an effort to make sure that all the students enrolled at Amidon-Bowen receive the

full benefit of classroom time.

Continuing Principal Miller's quest to expand community engagement, Saturday School will resume in October, and Principal Miller hopes that she can entice a group of regular volunteers from the neighborhood to help students achieve higher test results and expand their knowledge base. Lavanya Poteau coordinates programs for the school and anyone interested in volunteering their time and teaching skill for the betterment of the community should contact her through the school.

## Real Estate Update

**T**his month we see the most significant change is in the average days on market category, the average days on market for July 2012 was 85 opposed to 44 in July 2013. Also keep a close eye on average sold price compared to average list price, it usually stays north of 90%. As usual the SW real estate market is strong. Stats provided from RBI deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

	Jul-13	Jul-12	% Change
Sold Dollar Volume	\$7,131,202	\$5,201,900	37.09%
Avg Sold Price	\$310,052	\$288,994	7.29%
Median Sold Price	\$253,900	\$276,000	-8.01%
Units Sold	23	18	27.78%
Avg Days on Market	44	85	-48.24%
Avg List Price for Solds	\$310,017	\$301,006	2.99%
Avg SP to OLP Ratio	97.8%	91.9%	6.49%

\*Information provided by Jason Martin, 202-641-0299, a local real estate professional with Keller Williams Capital Properties.\*

Photo by Perry Klein  
"President Abe Lincoln and staff greeted children of Amidon-Bowen Elementary School for the first day of school on August 26th. Volunteers from Christ United Methodist Church served breakfast for parents and teachers. Breakfast was donated by Potbelly and also by the Edgewood/Brookland Family Support Collaborative."



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**Saturday  
September 28  
11am to 6pm**

**7th Street Landing  
at the corner of  
7th and Water Streets SW**

**Come celebrate SW ArtsFest!**

**E**xpress yourself as you craft a Blowfish into art with the assistance of a talented team of artists there to help you uncover your inner creativity. You may just surprise yourself!

Then relax by the water and enjoy some of the District's most talented Blues musicians, produced by Jazz Night in Southwest with a finale by the U. S. Army Blues.

Beverages and refreshments will be available from Cantina Marina's Snack Shack and King Ribs Grillmaster Bufus will offer tasty-to-the-bone grilled fare. It's a day the whole family can enjoy together.

**Blowfish Art Studio Opens: 11am**

**Blues on the Waterfront:**

11am-12:30pm:

**The Linwood Taylor Band**

1-2:30pm:

**The Tom Newman Blues Band**

3-4:30pm:

**Charlie Sayles & the Blues Disciples**

**Evening Finale:**

5-6pm:

**United States Army Blues**

W H A R F

Blues & Blowfish is produced in celebration of the SW ArtsFest with the support of Cantina Marina, Gangplank Marina, Jazz Night in Southwest, Washington Waterfront Association and Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall. All Blues & Blowfish art supplies and musical entertainment are FREE. Parental supervision of children under 6 is required for participation in the Blowfish Art Studio. The Wharf is within four blocks of L'Enfant Plaza and Waterfront Metrorail stops. Capital BikeShare is located at 700 Water Street SW. Blues & Blowfish is presented by Hoffman-Madison Waterfront, developers of the new, world-class waterfront, The Wharf. **More information is on-line at [wharfcdc.com](http://wharfcdc.com) or call 202-688-3590.** This outdoor event will be held rain or shine.

**SEPTEMBER**

**SAT 14** 4-5:30 P.M. Experience Yoga Nidra: Westminster Presbyterian Church. Instructor: Pamela Wilson. No experience in Yoga or meditation necessary. A donation of \$10 is suggested. 202-746-6654 or email: wilsonpj108@verizon.net

**SUN 15** 11 A.M. - 2 P.M. SW Community Gardens and PAWS of SW Dog Park Group, Meet and greet, tour the gardens, demonstrations of gardening and challenge your dog on the obstacle course. Special Guest: Sam the Bloodhound, MPD's Newest Detective. **Lansburgh Park, 1098 Delaware Ave SW.**

**WED 18 12 NOON.** AARP Southwest Waterfront Chapter 4751, Luncheon meeting. Mercy Morganfield, AARP State President will present with Jacci Jordan, AARP Associate State Director for Outreach, will speak on "AARP Update on Services, the Age Friendly City Initiative, and Legislation Impacting Seniors." Current AARP members and new prospective members are welcome. River Park Mutual Homes community room, 1311 Delaware Ave, SW. Chapter President Evelyn Dorsey, Dorseyear@aol.com or 203-488-9685.

**SAT 28 9 A.M. until dark, SW ARTSFEST 2013**, Celebrate our waterfront community's vibrant cultural and artistic diversity. This year's theme "Breaking New Ground" underscores current neighborhood redevelopment from SW waterfront to the Randall School, future site of an art museum. For more information, <http://swdcartsfest.org>

**SAT 28 9 A.M.-5 P.M.** St. Augustine's Episcopal Church's End of Summer Fair, held in conjunction with SW ArtsFest. Come discover St. A's spirit while enjoying homemade desserts at the bake sale and other various fun activities. 600 M Street SW. (see article) Arts & Crafts vendors questions, contact Laura at [office@staugustinesdc.org](mailto:office@staugustinesdc.org)

**SAT 28 1 P.M.** Kitchen Table Book Discussion, SW Neighborhood Library. In recognition of Banned Books week (Sept. 22nd - 28th), participants are requested to read a banned book. A list of titles is available on the American Library Association's website, [www.ala.org/bbooks](http://www.ala.org/bbooks).

**SUN 29** 8:00 A.M. The 3rd Annual National Capital 5K Run/Walk to support Hydrocephalus Association, West Potomac Park. See: <http://runforhydro.kintera.org>

**Community Calendar**

View our on-line calendar at [www.swdc.org/calendar](http://www.swdc.org/calendar).

Submit Calendar events to [calendar@thesouthwester.com](mailto:calendar@thesouthwester.com) by the 15th of the month preceding the month it is scheduled.

**WEEKLY, BIWEEKLY**

**AFTER SCHOOL ACCESS**, 3:30-5 P.M., Mondays-Fridays. Safe, Supportive and well-structured environment to complete home work with staff helping. If no homework, staff will provide per grade. King Greenleaf Recreation Center. FREE

**ARTS & CRAFTS**, 5-6 P.M., Mondays-Fridays. Uses basic art supplies to create and design. Learn new techniques and new uses for common materials. King Greenleaf Recreation Center.

**AYE COMMUNITY MARKETS**, 9 A.M.-1 P.M., Saturdays, Dreaming Out Loud is running the farmers market on the grounds of Christ United Methodist Church, 900 4th Street SW, (near the Waterfront Metro green line.)

**BINGO FOR SENIORS** 1-3 P.M. with Mrs. Walker, Mondays and Thursdays, at King Greenleaf Recreation Center. FREE.

**BLUES MONDAYS**, 6-9 P.M., Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 Eye Street SW, Various Blues musicians and singers featured each Monday. \$5. Food for sale.

**BOYS TO MEN, 5-6 P.M., Wednesdays**, with Paul Taylor, Mike Wilson and Gary Williams. What is 'doing the right thing'? Rites of Passage, making positive choices and developing life skills are all topics in the Men Only discussion groups. King Greenleaf Recreation Center, 201 N Street SW. FREE

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL**, 9:30 A.M. St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M Street SW. Children ages 3 and older are invited to join our loving and lively Sunday School where they are introduced to a loving God who welcomes and cares for all. Through biblical stories, art, music and holy play, our children are nurtured in their natural spirituality to grow as the "littlest members" of a community of faith. [www.staugustinesdc.org](http://www.staugustinesdc.org) 202-554-3222 or [rector@staugustinesdc.org](mailto:rector@staugustinesdc.org).

**COMPUTER CLASSES**, Tuesday 10-12 Noon SW Neighborhood Library, 900 Wesley Pl SW. 202-724-4752.

**THURS 5** (No class scheduled); **THURS 12** (Microsoft Word); **THURS 19** (Microsoft Excel); **THURS 26** (Microsoft PowerPoint); **October 3** (No Class scheduled).

**HAND DANCING CLASSES, SATURDAYS, 12-2 P.M.** Jitterbug, Lindy Hop, Classes by Markus Smith of Swing Anatomy Dance. \$10/class for adults, \$5/class for children 8-17. Christ United Methodist Church, 900 Fourth Street SW, Community room off Wesley Place, SW

**HAND DANCING CLASSES, SATURDAYS, 12:30-3:30 P.M.**, Mr. Zek, King Greenleaf Recreation Center, 201 N Street SW. 645-7454

**JAZZ NIGHT IN SW, FRIDAYS, 6-9 P.M.** Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 Eye Street SW. Various Jazz musicians and singers featured each Friday. \$5. Food for sale.

**JOB SEEKERS PROGRAM, WEDNESDAYS 1-8:00 P.M.** By Appointment Only; Call 724-4298. Help with resumes, cover letters, applications and other aspects of the job search process. Sept. 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th. SW Neighborhood Library.

**THE KIWANIS CLUB OF SOUTHWEST WATERFRONT, 6:30-7:30 P.M.**, Every first and third Monday. Christ United Methodist Church, 900 Fourth Street SW.

**LITTLE FARM STAND at the Duck Pond, 10 A.M.-2 P.M.**, Fresh, local, organic produce from Loudoun County, Virginia, along with farm-baked pies, preserves, and honey. Email [littlefarmstand@yahoo.com](mailto:littlefarmstand@yahoo.com) to join the weekly list serve of fresh offerings, and to pre-order your selection. Repeats through November.

**NARFE-THE NATIONAL Active and Retired Federal Employees Assn.** 12-2 P.M., every fourth Thursday, September through May. SW Neighborhood Library Meeting Room.

**POLICE SERVICE AREA 105**, Community meeting, 7-8:30 P.M., every Third Thursday. Location announced at previous meeting.

**POLICE SERVICE AREA 106**, Community meeting, 10-11 A.M., every Last Saturday, Senior Citizen Community Room 900 5th Street S.E.

**PRE-SCHOOL STORY TIME, 10:30 -11:30A.M. TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS**, featuring stories, songs, finger plays and other activities suitable for children 18-mos-3 yrs. SW Neighborhood Library.

**SEATED YOGA, 11:00-Noon on Mondays, and Wednesdays 4-5 P.M.**, Westminster Presbyterian Church. 400 M Street SW, Pamela Wilson guides a gentle series of movements designed to free the joints and ease the mind.

**SOUTHWEST RENEWAL AA**, Alcoholics Anonymous group, Mondays, 8:30 P.M. St. Augustine's Church, 600 M Street SW, (202) 554-3222.

**STRENGTH AND TONING with Mrs. Dee, 6:30-7:30 P.M.**, Mondays and Thursdays, Enjoy the benefit of a slower paced aerobic workout to improve stamina and strength. King Greenleaf Recreation Center, 201 N Street SW in the Multipurpose Room. Free

**SW FREEWAY, NA, 7-8 P.M.**, Narcotics Anonymous group, Wednesdays, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 Eye Street SW.

**WALK FOR WELLNESS FOR SENIORS** while walking to music, 11 A.M.-12 P.M. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, in the gym of King Greenleaf Recreation Center, 201 N Street SW. FREE

**WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTOR'S CLUB, 7-9 P.M.**, First and Third Wednesday each month. Buy, trade and sell stamps. Refreshments, auctions and programs. Christ United Methodist Church, 900 Fourth Street SW. 202-863-0564

**WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS**, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 Eye Street SW, 4 P.M. Seated Yoga and Healing Sessions (Pamela Wilson and Riva Wine). 5 P.M. Tai Chi (Manifest Ra). 6:30 P.M. Laughter Yoga (Claire Trivedi). 6:45 P.M. Sampoorna Yoga (Alex Rosen). 7 P.M. Narcotics Anonymous SW Freeway Meeting.

**YOUNG LADIES ON THE RISE (Girls only), 6-7 P.M.**, Thursdays, will hold a special event where young ladies will come together to participate in sporting activities and speak on girl topics like self image Mrs. Safiyyah & Mrs. Tee. King Greenleaf Recreation Center. Free.

**OCTOBER**

**WED 2 7 P.M.** St. Augustine's Art & Spirit Coffeehouse. Southwest resident and film critic Gene Seymour will discuss "2013 in Movies: What's Out Now? What's Been

See "Calendar," page 7

**Allen A. Flood, M.D.****DERMATOLOGY**

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## St. Augustine's to Host NAACP Speaker

By Floyd Nelson Jr.

**S**herrilyn Ifill, the seventh President and Director-Counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc., will be the featured speaker at the third Celebratory Dinner Honoring the Legacy of Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, Thursday, October 17th, 2013. The reception starts at 6:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m. Maureen Bunyan of ABC7/WJLA TV will be the evening's Mistress of Ceremonies.

Ms. Ifill, a graduate of Vassar College and New York University School of Law, served first as a fellow at the American Civil Liberties Union and then for five years as an assistant counsel in LDF's New York office, where she litigated voting rights cases. Among her successful litigation was the landmark Voting Rights Act case *Houston Lawyers' Association vs. Attorney General of Texas*, in which the



Sherrilyn Ifill

Supreme Court held that judicial elections are covered by the provisions of section 2 of the Voting Rights Act.

From her base in Baltimore, Ms. Ifill has emerged as a highly regarded national civil rights strategist and public intellectual whose writings, speeches, and media appearances enrich public debate about a range of political and civil rights issues. Her scholarly writings have

focused on the importance of diversity on the bench. In fact, she is currently writing a book about race and Supreme Court confirmation hearings. Ms. Ifill is the immediate past Chair of the Board of one of the largest philanthropic supporters of civil rights and social justice organizations in the country, U.S. Programs at the Open Society Institute.

Tickets and sponsorship opportunities for the event are still available. For more information, please contact St. Augustine's at 202.544.3222 or email at [rector@staugustinesdc.org](mailto:rector@staugustinesdc.org).

## PSA 105 Monthly Meeting Notes

By Irv Gamza and John McGrath, PSA 105

**T**he PSA 105 monthly meeting for July 2013 was held in the First Police District Headquarters Community Room at 101 M St SW. Preceding the meeting, Mary Williams and over 25 residents of Carrollsburg Place and Half St SW discussed quality of life issues which then transitioned into concerns about crime and safety in PSA 105 with Sgt Michael Architzel. Among the issues discussed with the police were:

■ Possible illegal parking by cars and buses in SW near Nationals Park.  
 ■ Allowable noise levels from events near Nationals Park as well as existing businesses in SE and SW.  
 ■ Public drinking near Cap Liquor (1300 block of South Capitol St). The police noted that changes in DC regulations now permit home owners to drink on private property in public (front yards, porches, etc.).  
 ■ Concerns about the effectiveness of police enforcement of curfew laws and student truancy. Police stated that there was aggressive enforce-

ment underway.

■ Continuing concerns about (1) illegal left turns (4th St onto M St SW); and (2) dangerous right turns from the South Capitol St center lanes onto N St SW.

■ Drug enforcement throughout DC. The police noted that enforcement efforts are now concentrated in each police district rather than citywide. Continuing concerns about drug activity in the O St Circle (300 O St SW) were noted.

There were no questions about violent crime such as robbery or assault with a dangerous weapon (ADW), but police noted that two recent homicides were closed promptly and the perpetrators were apprehended. One other homicide involving an assault in 2009 resulted in a death in 2013.

Overall, police have demonstrated remarkable success in reducing or leveling violent and property crimes in PSA 105 in recent years. Police continue to stress vigilance on the part of citizens and urge them to call 911 for any crime in progress as well as to report patterns of suspicious activity to establish a track record for follow up by the police.

## CALENDAR

From p. 6

Out? What's Coming Soon?" Coffee and desserts, follow by audience Q&A. Free, donations accepted. St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M Street SW. [www.staugustinesdc.org](http://www.staugustinesdc.org). 202-554-3222 or [rector@staugustinesdc.org](mailto:rector@staugustinesdc.org).

**THURS 3 (e)merge Art Fair. 7-9 P.M.** The third edition of the (e)merge Art Fair will take place October 3-6, 2013 in Washington D.C. (e)merge's progressively international exhibition roster, now featuring 80 exhibitors showing works by over 150 artists from 30 countries, bolsters the US capital's rise as a global cultural destination. Located in **Capitol Skyline Hotel, 10 "I" Street S.W.** Adults \$15.00, Students & Seniors \$10 (at the door), Groups of 10 or more \$10 (each). <http://www.emergeartfair.com>

**FRI 4 6:30pm Potluck, 7pm games. St. Augustine's Game Night.** Bring a potluck dish to share. Board and card games provided, but feel free to bring your own games too. All ages welcome. St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M St. SW, 202-554-3222 [www.staugustinesdc.org](http://www.staugustinesdc.org) or [rector@staugustinesdc.org](mailto:rector@staugustinesdc.org)

**SAT 5 10:30 A.M. Family Story Time**, featuring stories,

songs finger plays and other activities suitable for children 18 mos.-3 yrs. **SW Neighborhood Library**

**MON 7 7-8:30 P.M. PAWS of Southwest.** The monthly meeting is open to the public in the downstairs community room of the **SW Neighborhood Library**. Also find us **PAWS of Southwest** on Facebook.

**SAT 26 1 P.M. Kitchen Table Book Discussion, SW Neighborhood Library.** Discussion will feature the DC City Reads title, *Frederick Douglass in Washington, D.C.: The Lion of Anacostia* by John Muller.

## WEEKLY, BIWEEKLY

**COMPUTER CLASSES**, Tuesday 10-12 Noon **SW Neighborhood Library**, 900 Wesley Pl SW. 202-724-4752. **TUES 1** (No class); **TUES 8** (Introduction to Personal Computers); **TUES 15** (Internet Basics); **TUES 22** (DC Public Library website); **TUES 29** (Email Basics); **November 5** (Microsoft Word).

**JOB SEEKERS PROGRAM, WEDNESDAYS 1-8:00 P.M.** By Appointment Only; Call 724-4298. Help with resumes, cover letters, applications and other aspects of the job search process. Oct. 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th. **SW Neighborhood Library**.

## St. Dominic Church to Celebrate Heritage

By Fr. George P. Schommer, O.P.

**F**ounded in 1852, St. Dominic Church remained a stable presence in Southwest Washington when almost everything was cleared away in the work of urban renewal in the 1950s. Parishioners relocated to Maryland and Virginia, but retained an affinity for the church and the Dominican Friars who have ministered to the people of the parish since the beginning. Graduates of St. Dominic School advanced to further their education and begin their careers, yet they have remained in contact with many of their classmates and school mates. Now, St.

Dominic Church is reviving its annual reunion and celebration of its heritage. Parishioners past and present, students who attended St. Dominic School, and neighbors past and current are invited to a Heritage Day celebration on Sunday, October 13th, 2013. The celebration begins with the celebration of Holy Mass at 10:45 a.m. in the church. A reception will follow in the Solarium Room of the L'Enfant Plaza Hotel. Attendees are asked to bring pictures and other memorabilia. RSVP to St. Dominic Church at 202-554-7863 or [receptionist@stdominicchurch.org](mailto:receptionist@stdominicchurch.org).

## Come Out of Your Cave

By Rev. Ida Moss, Senior Pastor • [www.MyGreaterWorks.org](http://www.MyGreaterWorks.org)



Have life's disappointments caused you to surrender to a "cave?" The cave is where we go when our dreams seem out of reach. We descend into a cave when we discover that life doesn't always work-out the way we think. It is a safe place, but it puts us at a disadvantage. We survive in the cave, but we do not thrive. We pull-through, but we do not prosper. In 1 Samuel 22, God told David to come out of his cave. David had gone there to hide from men who were trying to kill him. Coming out was a risk of mammoth proportions! But God knew if David never took the risk, he would never discover the great plan that God had for his life! What is your cave? Isn't it time for you to come out?

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Honoring the Legacy of  
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**Thursday, October 17, 2013  
6:30 PM Reception • 7:30 PM Dinner**

**Ms. Sherrilyn Ifill**  
President and Director-Counsel,  
NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.  
Keynote Speaker

**Ms. Maureen Bunyan, ABC7/WJLA-TV**  
Mistress of Ceremonies

**Tickets: \$125.00. Contact for sponsorship levels**  
[www.staugustinesdc.org/article/139/events/thurgood-marshall-event](http://www.staugustinesdc.org/article/139/events/thurgood-marshall-event)  
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## Boats and Homes 2013!

By Jess Dankert

Can dogs live on a boat? Can cats? Can a family? Can a bin of composting worms live on a boat? All these questions and more can be answered by attending the Southwest DC Waterfront Boat-Home Tour, on Saturday, October 26th.

Located on the southwest waterfront, along the Washington Channel, Gangplank Marina is home to the largest "liveaboard" community on the East Coast. For over 30 years, it has been home to a diverse group including professionals, families, artists, retirees, scientists, congresspeople, members of the military, and many more. The homes of these water-dwellers may be small, but they more than make up for it with a unique way of life and an eclectic, vibrant community of neighbors.

For only the third time in history, the floating homes of Gangplank Marina will be open to the public for a self-guided tour of approximately 20 of the most fun and uncommon homes (and offices) in Washington DC. Owners and docents will also be available to answer questions about the boat homes and the liveaboard and workaboard lifestyles.

The majority of the proceeds from the



tour ticket sales will benefit local charities in southwest DC. Previous recipients have included Earth Conservation Corps, Alice Ferguson Foundation, Southwest Playground Project, Southwest Scholarship Fund, and more.

The self-paced tour will take place on Saturday, October 26th, from 10 am to 2 pm. Advance tickets are recommended (\$20 per person) as the tour is expected to sell out. We're also offering a discounted ticket price of \$15 to our southwest neighbors in the 20024 zip code! Purchase tickets online via the web site [www.dchouseboat.org](http://www.dchouseboat.org) (tickets will likely not be available on the day of the tour). Waterfront bar & grill Cantina Marina will offer a 10% discount to tour-goers. Check out [www.dchouseboat.org](http://www.dchouseboat.org) for more information. See you on the water!

## Christ United Methodist Church Celebrates 50 Years in Southwest

If only buildings could talk, the church on the corner of 4th and I St SW could share a very rich history indeed; a history reflective of its beginning as a place of worship during a time in our history that redefined our southwest neighborhood during the civil rights movement struggle and the rapid progression of urban renewal. One of the historical hallmarks of this congregation is that it was one of first racially integrated congregations in DC at a time when racial tension across the country was front page news. This congregation was led by Rev. Welch, a pastor whose vision for racial reconciliation in southwest was the cornerstone of his ministry.

Christ United Methodist Church began in 1961 as a result of the merger of Gorsuch Methodist Church and the Lewis Memorial Methodist congregations. This new congregation initially worshiped on the site previously used by Lewis Memorial, but immediately began searching for new church land to build. They later acquired the current location which was then known as 4th and Half St.

On Sunday, December 10th, 1961, the site was consecrated by a special service. A groundbreaking service, the first official groundbreaking for a new church in the newly-redeveloped Southwest, was held on Sunday, May 13th, 1962. The cornerstone of the church was laid on Sunday, October 21st, 1962, and the inaugural service was held on Palm Sunday, April 7th, 1963.

Christ Church has been blessed to be led by nine spirit-filled leaders: Rev. Lester K.

Welch, Rev. Carroll L. Yingling, Rev. Don Bruce Lowe, Rev. Cathryn B. Moore, Rev. Esther M. Holimon, Rev. Wendy J. Shenk-Evans, Rev. Joan H. Coates, Rev. Arlester Brown (Interim Pastor), Rev. Jason L. Robinson, and our current pastor, the Rev. Adrienne Terry.

Over the years, Christ Church provided a range of ministries and services to our neighbors in the southwest area, greater Washington DC, and the international community. Present day ministries include the AYA Farmer's Market, which brings fresh produce to the community on Saturdays; the SHARE food distribution program, a monthly purchase of food supplies; and support of the Food for the Minds food distribution program at Amidon Elementary School. The church has also partnered with Capitol Hill Group Ministries and the southwest Kiwanis to provide supportive services for children living in southwest. Weekly hand dances and bi-weekly meetings of the Stamp Club are also located at the church.

On November 9th and 10th, 2013, Christ Church will host a two-day celebration in honor of its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of service in the Southwest community. On the evening of Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, a concert will highlight our musical celebration and a special service on Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, at 10 am will honor our history and most importantly our faith and blessings for our work for Christ.

Everyone is invited so please refer to the [cumcdc.org](http://cumcdc.org) website for details!

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